(b) to (d) The Punjabi University, Patiala has been established by Government of Punjab. According to the information furnished by the State Government, the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor was made by the Chancellor in accordance with the provisions of the Punjabi University Act. The present Vice-Chancellor was never a Reader in Political Science in the same University and the complaint received by the University was found to be baseless.

(e) and (f) The University has informed that no junior person has been appointed Head of the Department superseding a senior person.

Appointment of Registrar of Punjabi University, Patiala

1724. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently changed the Registrar of Punjabi University, Patiala;

(b) whether any fresh appointment has been made to the above post;

(c) whether the regular procedure and Rules were followed in this appointment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The Government have not changed the Registrar of Punjabi University, Patiala. It is a matter entirely within the jurisdiction of the University.

(b) to (d) The appointment of the Registrar of the Punjabi University, Patiala is made by the Syndicate of the University. The University has informed that the appointment of the Registrar has been made in accordance with the Act and the Statutes of the University.

Seventh Five Year Plan

1725. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the ICOR achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has decided to reducing the ICOR from 4.6 to 4.35 to achieve a 6 per cent growth rate;

(c) wheher an ICOR of 4.35 is considered achievable;

(d) whether it is a fact that at a growth rate of 6 per cent with an ICOR of 4.35, the savings required would be of the order of 27 per cent as against 21 per cent achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(e) whether Government would reconsider the growth rate, ICOR and saving rate in a manner that the targets are realistic and achievable?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The investment and output data for the entire period of Seventh Five Year Plan is not yet available.

(b) to (d) Details of parameters relating to savings, investments and growth during the Eighth Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Hazards of pollution from chemical pesticides

1726. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the world-wide concern on the dangers of pollution from chemical pesticides;

(b) if so, whether standards for all pesticides registered in India have been laid down if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether any Voluntary Health Group has been writing to Government on this subject; if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Out of a total of 123 pesticides registered by the Government on a regular basis, maximum residual tolerance limits for 31 pesticides in food articles have been laid down. In addition, tolerance limits for 19 other pesticides have also been fixed and these are in the process of being published. The pesticides for which tolerance limits have been fixed are those which are commonly manufactured and used in India.

(c) The Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has prepared a status report on Pesticide Residues *vis-a-vis* Consumer Protection and has communicated the recommendations contained in the Status Report to the Ministry. The Government has constituted a Standing Committee on Pesticides under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to review the implementation of decisions taken by various ministries regarding pesticide use in the country.

Moratorium on food irradiation

1727. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Australia has put three years moratorium on food irradiation recently; if so, on what grounds; and

(b) whether any Health Groups in the country have been pleading with Government to place a similar moratorium on the basis of recommendation of the Food Irradiation Conference held in Canbarra in December, 1988 by International Organisation of Consumer Union, Penang, until many serious doubts, especially on health grounds are fully cleared: if so, what is the present Government's position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir. Government are not aware that Australia has put three years' moratorium on food irradiation.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some groups like Voluntary Health Association of India, Indian Vegetarian Congress and Beauty without Cruelty have protested against the use of irradiated food in this country. But these protests are not substantiated with scientific data. The Canberra Conference was held by a private organisation of consumers which is not recognised by WHO or IAEA, "Canberra Declaration of IOCU did not provide the public with a balanced view on Food Irradiation" is the view held by IAEA.

Government have reviewed the voluminous data on the safety and wholesomeness of irradiated foods before according the clearance for irradiation of some food for public consumption. A demonstration is being established to evaluate the onions is being established to evaluate the economics of this process. Research is being carried on to establish versatile detection methods for irradiated products.

मैसर्स ए०बी० बोफोर्स के साथ हुई संविदा

1728. **श्री बीजू इशाक बेग :** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने बोफोर्स तोप सौदे से संबंधित सभी शर्तें स्वीकार कर ली थीं ; यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) संविदा की शर्तों के अनुसार मैसर्स ए०बी० बोफोर्स को अब तक